May 9, 2007

OAK RIDGE LAWYER CENSURED

On May 7, 2007, the Board of Professional Responsibility issued a Public Censure as to Billy P. Sams, an attorney who practices law in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The complainant was incarcerated in the Knox County detention center for two felony DUI’s. He asked his attorney, Tony McGuire, to see if he could be transferred to the Veterans Hospital as a result of his being diagnosed there as a diabetic and because he had trouble maintaining his sugar level. Mr. McGuire spoke to the District Attorney, who refused to agree to such transfer. The complainant then contacted the Respondent in the Fall of 2005. Respondent told the complainant that he could get the complainant transferred if the complainant paid him $1,500.00. The complainant paid this money. Respondent did not get him transferred and failed to respond to the complainant’s inquiries. Respondent has also failed to provide Disciplinary Counsel the complainant’s file as Disciplinary Counsel requested. The Board found that Mr. Sams violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3, 1.4, and 8.4(d).

This censure was issued pursuant to Rule 9, Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. This censure does not limit Mr. Sams’ ability to continue to practice law.

Sams 28998-2 rel.doc

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